

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) A plastic molded drum having a bung opening, the plastic molded drum comprising a cylindrical wall, a top structure, and a bottom structure, all integrally molded;

the top structure comprising a top wall and a top chime having a top edge extending circumferentially around, upwardly, and radially outward with respect to said top wall, the top wall comprising an integrally molded recessed portion, the top structure further comprising an upwardly extending first fitting integrally molded with the recessed portion and extending therefrom, the first fitting having a first neck portion and adapted to receive components including a closure;

wherein at least the top chime, the top wall, and the cylindrical wall are integrally molded so that there are no welded portions connecting the top chime with the top wall or the cylindrical wall, and so that there are no welded portions connecting the top wall with the cylindrical wall;

wherein the distance from the top of the first fitting to the top edge of the top chime is sufficient such that components extending 1 and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches above the top of the first fitting [[is]] are below the top edge of the top chime; and

wherein the drum is made by a process comprising blow molding at least the cylindrical wall, the top wall, and the top chime together in a single blow molding operation.

2. (Previously Presented) The plastic molded drum of claim 1 wherein the recessed portion is localized around the first fitting.

3. (Previously Presented) The plastic molded drum of claim 1, further comprising a bottom chime integrally molded so that there are no welded portions connecting the bottom chime with

the bottom wall or the cylindrical wall, and wherein the process for making the drum includes blow molding the bottom chime together with the cylindrical wall, the top wall, and the chime.

4. (Previously Presented) The plastic molded drum of claim 1 wherein the closure comprises a vent outlet and a vent valve for relieving pressure within the drum.

5. (Previously Presented) The plastic molded drum of claim 4 further comprising a cover extending over the vent outlet, and vent valve.

6. (Previously Presented) A combination blow molded plastic drum, and closure, the plastic molded drum comprising, a cylindrical wall, a top structure, and a bottom structure;

the top structure comprising a top wall, an integral recessed portion, an upwardly extending first fitting extending from the recessed portion, and an upwardly extending chime with a top edge; wherein at least the chime, the top wall, and the cylindrical wall are integrally molded in one piece in a single blow molding operation, so that the chime is not part of a separate body attached to the top wall or the cylindrical wall, so that there are no welded portions connecting the chime with the top wall or the cylindrical wall, and so that there are no welded portions connecting the top wall with the cylindrical wall;

the closure engageable with the first fitting to secure the closure in place on the drum;

the chime extending above the recessed portion 1 ½ to 2 ¾ inches; and

the distance between the top of the first fitting and the top edge of the chime being at least 1 and ¼ inches.

7. (Original) The combination of claim 6, wherein the recessed portion is localized around the first fitting.

8. (Original) The combination of claim 6, wherein the closure is attached to a drum insert with the drum insert attached to the first fitting.

9. (Original) The combination of claim 6, wherein the closure comprises a vent outlet and a vent valve for relieving pressure within the drum.

10. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 6, wherein the first fitting extends from the recessed portion a distance not more than substantially one half the vertical distance between the recessed portion and the top edge of the upwardly extending chime.

11. (Previously Presented) A blow molded plastic drum made by a process comprising the step of blow molding said drum in a single blow molding operation as a one-piece, integrally molded body including a cylindrical wall, a top structure, and a bottom structure, the top structure comprising a top wall, an integral recessed portion, an upwardly extending first fitting adapted to receive a drum insert with a closure, and an upwardly extending chime for protecting the drum insert and closure from physical contact, the chime having a top edge, the top edge of the chime extending at least  $1 \frac{1}{4}$  inches above the top of the first fitting.

12. (Previously Presented) The drum of claim 11, wherein the recessed portion is localized around the first fitting.

13. (Previously Presented) The drum of claim 11, wherein the recessed portion extends substantially throughout the top wall.

14. (Previously Presented) The drum of claim 11, wherein the closure comprises a vent outlet and a vent valve for relieving pressure within the drum.

15. (Previously Presented) The drum of claim 11, wherein the first fitting extends from the recessed portion a distance not more than substantially one half the vertical distance between the recessed portion and the top edge of the upwardly extending chime.

16. (Cancel)